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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,700	10/29/2003	Yile Guo	042933/269527	5560
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ALSTON & BIRD LLP BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA 101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000 CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000			EXAMINER NGUYEN, QUANG N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/695,700

Applicant(s)

GUO ET AL.

Examiner

Quang N. Nguyen

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed on 11/16/2007. Claims 1-9, 13, 17 and 21 have been amended. Claims 1-24 remain pending for examination.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-24 are objected to because of the following informalities:

On line 1 of claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-24: "A ..." is suggested to be "The ..."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu et al. (US 7,085,997), hereinafter "Wu", in view of Khakoo et al (US 2003/0135569), hereinafter "Khakoo".

5. As to claim 1, **Wu** discloses an apparatus comprising:

a processor configured to operate a user naming system (UNS), wherein the UNS is configured to receive, from an application (*for example, applications residing on internet servers 23, 25 and 27*), a request for an identity of a user, wherein the UNS is configured to automatically select a predefined identity based upon the application and at least one user preference independent of user input to the application, and wherein the UNS is configured to provide the selected identity to the application (*the corresponding predefined user name and password stored in a user's profile are invoked as needed to provide the needed data for log-on into the requesting URL/application*) (**Wu, Fig. 2, page 5, lines 25-55, page 6, lines 36-51 and page 7, lines 39-61**).

However, **Wu** does not **explicitly** teach automatically select one of a plurality of identities for use by the respective application, based upon the application and at least one user preference independent of user input to the application.

In the same field of endeavor, **Khakoo** discloses a method and system for delivering messages based on user presence, preferences or location of the recipient, wherein the instant message delivery server updates the presence and device address entries based on the automatic detection of the presence of the user to enable the delivery of messages to be routed and scheduled based on the location and availability (*i.e., status*) of the intended recipient (**Khakoo, Abstract, Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0020-0021]**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the features of automatically selecting one of a plurality of identities for use by the respective application, based upon the application and at least one user preference, as disclosed by **Khakoo**, into the teachings of **Wu**. One would be motivated to do so to enable the delivery of messages to be routed and scheduled based on user presence, preferences or location of the recipient.

6. As to claim 2, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the UNS is configured to receive, from a trusted application, a request for an identity of a user, and wherein the UNS is configured to select an identity further based upon a status of the user (*select an identity based on user presence, i.e., based on the status of the user*) (**Khakoo, Abstract**).

7. As to claim 3, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the at least one user preference comprises at least one naming preference, wherein the UNS is configured to obtain a status of the user, and thereafter matching the status of the user with a status of a naming preference that also includes a predefined identity, and wherein the UNS is capable of selecting the predefined identity of the respective naming preference (*the instant message delivery server 100 is always able to determine whether a user is available*) (**Khakoo, Abstract, Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0020-0021]**).

8. As to claim 4, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the UNS is configured to match the status of the user with a status of at least one naming preference that further includes at least one application (*the instant message delivery server 100 updates the presence and device address entries based on the automatic detection of the presence of the user*) (**Khakoo, Abstract, Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0020-0021]**), wherein the UNS is further configured to match the application requesting the identity with an application of one of the at least one naming preference having a matching status, and wherein the UNS is configured to select the predefined identity from the naming preference having a matching status and having a matching application (*if the intended recipient is available at a voice-capable device, the text-based message is converted to speech and then delivered by means of a voice call, etc.*) (**Khakoo, paragraphs [0014-0016]**).

9. As to claim 6, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the UNS is further configured to identify a current preferred identity based upon at least one user preference and a status of the user, wherein the UNS is configured to receive, from a trusted application, a request for an identity of a user, and wherein the UNS is configured to select the current preferred identity (*if the intended recipient is available at a voice-capable device, the text-based message is converted to speech and then delivered by means of a voice call, etc.*) (**Khakoo, paragraphs [0014-0016] and [0020-0021]**).

10. As to claim 7, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the at least one user preference comprises at least one naming preference, wherein the UNS is configured to obtain a status of the user (*the instant message delivery server 100 updates the presence and device address entries based on the automatic detection of the presence of the user*) (**Khakoo, Abstract, Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0020-0021]**), and thereafter matching the status of the user with a status of a naming preference that also includes a predefined identity, and wherein the UNS is configured to identify the predefined identity of the respective naming preference as a current preferred identity (*if the intended recipient is available at a voice-capable device, the text-based message is converted to speech and then delivered by means of a voice call, etc.*) (**Khakoo, paragraphs [0014-0016]**).

11. As to claim 8, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses the apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the UNS is configured to match the status of the user with a status of at least one naming preference that further includes at least one application (*the instant message delivery server 100 updates the presence and device address entries based on the automatic detection of the presence of the user*) (**Khakoo, Abstract, Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0020-0021]**), wherein the UNS is configured to identify, for each application of each naming preference having a matching status, the predefined identity of the respective naming preference as a current preferred identity of the respective application, and wherein the UNS is configured to select the current preferred identity of an application matching the application requesting the identity (*if the intended recipient*

is available at a voice-capable device, the text-based message is converted to speech and then delivered by means of a voice call, etc.) (Khakoo, paragraphs [0014-0016]).

12. Claims 9-12 and 14-16 are corresponding method claims of system claims 1-4 and 6-8; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale.

13. Claims 17-20 and 22-24 are corresponding computer program product claims of system claims 1-4 and 6-8; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale.

14. Claims 5, 13 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu-Khakoo, in view of Gabber et al. (US 5,961,593), hereinafter "Gabber".

15. As to claim 5, **Wu-Khakoo** discloses an apparatus according to claim 1, but does not **explicitly** disclose wherein the UNS is capable of one of selecting and generating a pseudonym to thereby select an identity, and wherein the UNS is capable of providing the pseudonym.

In the same field of endeavor, **Gabber** teaches a proxy system generates and provides substitute identifiers (*i.e., pseudonyms*), which allow users to access the server sites anonymously via the proxy system (**Gabber, page 5, line 58 – page 6, line 17 and col. 11, line 54 – col. 12, line 8**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the features of being capable of one of selecting and generating a pseudonym to thereby select an identity, and providing the pseudonym to a non-trusted application, as disclosed by **Gabber**, into the teachings of **Wu-Khakoo**. One would be motivated to do so to allow a user to establish accounts on web-sites without revealing his true identity, and without reusing the same user names, passwords for multiple sites to avoid a security breach at one site to affect other sites, at the same time to allow the user to browse/access the Internet in a safe and private (anonymous) manner (**Gabber, page 2, lines 3-19 and lines 51-55**).

16. Claim 13 is a corresponding method claim of system claim 5; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

17. Claim 21 is a corresponding computer program product claim of system claim 5; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

18. Applicant's arguments as well as request for reconsideration filed on 11/16/2007 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

19. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

20. Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892, which is an attachment to this Office Action.

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21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's SPE, Rupal Dharia, can be reached at (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Quang N. Nguyen
Primary Examiner – AU 2141
January 24th, 2008